

POSSUM PRESS



NEWS FROM JEN

THURSDAY 30 MARCH: Term 1 Week 9

Congratulations to all of our swimmers who competed so well last Wednesday at the Belconnen District Swimming. Thank you to Mrs Thorpe and Mrs Sampson for supporting our students. I have seen the plethora of ribbons our students won (four firsts, six seconds and three thirds) and have heard the stories about personal best times being beaten by up to thirty seconds! It was great to see such resilience and grit displayed by our competitors in every race and what I was very proud of was the fun and excitement all participants demonstrated. The way that Maribyrnong students showed sustained interest and effort towards their goals is evidence of their focus and determination to achieve their personal best. A huge congratulations to all of our competitors, we look forward to hearing and sharing of more success at the ACT swimming in a few weeks.



ACT
Government
Education

CONTACTS

Maribyrnong School

Ph: 62055933 Fax: 62055932
www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au

FACEBOOK: Maribyrnong
Primary School-Kaleen



Board Chair Lauren Newman
laurennewman_13@yahoo.com.au

P&C President Meg Holesgrove
maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com

Possum Pantry Canteen

Wednesday to Friday Ph: 6241 5974
<http://www.flexischools.com.au>

Communities@Work ph:0405 124 312
Breakfast Club and After School Care

Westpac School Bank Account

BSB 032 777 Account 001615

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH

31 School Cross Country and
Canteen Special Lunch

APRIL

3-7 Year 2 AQUASAFE: week 2
5 P&C Disco 6.00 to 7.30 pm:
K-6 students welcome.
7 Assembly 9.15 am *Special
time* Easter Raffle drawn
Last day of term 1.



**School returns on Wednesday 26
April at 9.00 am**

Science News

A fortnight ago, Penny Travers a cross media reporter from ABC Radio Canberra, came to Maribyrnong to speak with our students and with Mrs Carr about the work of the power rangers. The audio package aired on ABC radio last week, if you missed it you can find the recording on our school Facebook page. A news article with many photos was also published, please see the link below. I encourage you to read through the story and share in another successful program at Maribyrnong which focuses on sustainability education. Congratulations to Mrs Carr and our wonderful power rangers, the work within our community shows incredible respect and excellence!

<http://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2017-03-23/recycling-and-energy-saving-at-maribyrnong-primary-school/8377514>

Congratulations Lyn!

Almost two weeks ago now, Pierre Defourny, Special Advisor at the Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium and Celine Verheugen, intern at the embassy, visited Maribyrnong to speak with our year 3 to 6 students about life in Belgium. Our school was allocated Belgium in a competition coinciding with 'La semaine de la francophonie' - a week of international celebrations of the French language. Our students were able to share their work and knowledge from the past few months of learning. Pierre and Celine shared the book '31 Days in Belgium' and provided more detail around the various aspects of Belgian culture raised by this book. The Chronicle came and interview Lyn and the Mr Defourny regarding the collaborate approach to learning being used. If you missed the article, make sure you take a moment to read about the wonderful learning our students have been engaged in.

<http://www.queanbeyanagechronicle.com.au/story/4535631/schools-taste-of-belgium/?cs=5355>



Earth Hour

Maribyrnong Primary once again participate in Earth Hour last Friday. Earth Hour is when we reduce our energy consumption by engaging in activities which do not require any form of electricity. Many families also participated in Earth Hour last weekend. If you were unable to but would still like to, you can choose any day or night and enjoy a number of activities that don't need electricity. Our students enjoyed art experiences, team building activities, board games and sports activities. Please take this opportunity to speak with your children about the small things we can do together that can make a big difference to the whole world!

Information Night

Thank you to all of the families and children who attended the Google Apps for Education (GAPE) or G Suite information night last night. We hope that you found the session informative and useful in terms of supporting your child as they engage with their learning on this platform. My thanks go to the senior school teachers for their organisation and coordination of the night. If you have any questions please talk with your child's teacher. We will look to hold another information session later in the year for families who were unable to attend.

Enrolments 2018

Enrolments for 2018 (preschool, year 7, year 11) open on Wednesday 26 April at 9.00 am. The process for enrolment is to complete the online enrolment application, a copy will be automatically emailed to your nominated email address (that you include on the form) and to the school. The enrolment timeline is a Directorate wide approach, as such offers of enrolment are emailed out to families in mid June. For families wanting more information, each high school holds an open night throughout May which you are welcome to attend to develop further insights into the schools approach to learning. Further information, including the enrolment portal and open night dates can be accessed through the following link:

http://www.education.act.gov.au/school_education/enrolling_in_an_act_public_school



Parking

Another reminder about parking safely. Unfortunately families are continuing to park in the bus zone. This means that we are having to walk students between cars to get onto the bus. This concern has been raised many times by families, staff and community members including at P&C meetings. The rain last week also caused even greater congestion in the car park with families parking illegally. We must work together to ensure the safety of everyone's children. I trust that this concern will be met with a change of action.

Front Building Update

Last week, Leanne and I met with the builders from iQon who will be completing the renovations of the front building. The current timeline is mid-April to mid-June. I expect when our students return for term 2 that there will be work underway. The builders will not be utilising the school car park, however they will need access at various times for deliveries. I ask that families are patient at this time and that we work together to share the space for the first few weeks of term.

Easter Raffle

Our annual Easter Raffle draw is a week away! We are continuing to receive many wonderful donations, including a fabulous bag of very nice soft animals! We are continuing to accept donations until tomorrow afternoon. Raffle tickets are also due back as soon as possible. Remember to get in quick, you won't want to miss this wonderful community event!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Jen



Speaking and Listening Mythbuster

Myth # 4 Children who don't speak clearly are lazy

This myth reflects a lack of understanding about the nature of speech problems in children and an absence of appreciation for the consequences of the problem.

Consider the following example: four year old Tommy says bus as "bus" but sun as "tun" and spoon as "poon". You might think that because Tommy can produce the "s" sound in bus, he is being lazy when he doesn't use "s" in sun and spoon. He's not. Tommy has the most common type of childhood speech difficulty — phonological disorder. A phonological disorder involves patterns of sound errors. For example, substituting all sounds made in the back of the mouth like "k" and "g" for those in the front of the mouth like "t" and "d" (e.g., saying "tup" for "cup" or "das" for "gas").

This difficulty exists when a child struggles to learn the grammar or rules about which speech sounds belong in the language they are learning and how those sounds combine to form words. When children begin to talk they make systematic rule-based changes to simplify their speech, so that complicated words are easier for them to process in their heads and say them.

As adults we intuitively know many of these rules. For instance, "spaghetti" becomes "getti" because toddlers delete syllables in long words, and "look" becomes "wook" because toddlers replace difficult sounds with easier sounds. Phonological disorder exists when most of these simplifying rules do not disappear by around four years of age.

Given the repeated misunderstandings and frustration that children with speech difficulties face, it makes no sense to suggest that these children are lazy. The truth is, children like Tommy have a phonological disorder that responds well to intervention by a speech therapist.



So.....this myth is BUSTED!

Children with a phonological disorder are not lazy. They require targeted support from a speech therapist to ensure they are understood.

Looking for more information to support your child's literacy or numeracy development? Please contact Jantienna Batt through the front office or by email jantienna.batt@ed.act.edu.au

End of term tiredness

A few parents have mentioned that their child is suffering from end of term tiredness, especially for our preschool and kindergarten children, and that there has been seen in a change in their behaviour. Young children often have difficulty explaining in words how they feel. Instead they may show their feelings through their behaviour. Some behaviours may be easier to spot like tantrums and crying, while others may be more difficult to notice like being quieter than usual. During times of tiredness, the following behaviours may emerge or increase in frequency:

- clinging behaviour (e.g. not wanting to separate from you)
- restlessness (e.g. difficulty settling at activities, easily distracted, fidgeting)
- withdrawing (e.g. not participating in familiar activities, less engaged, less willing to persist)
- being anxious (e.g. shyness, fidgeting, stomach aches, needing excessive reassurance around the routines or plans for the day)
- refusing to comply (e.g. not wanting to follow rules and routines)
- avoidance strategies (e.g. increased negotiations around participation)
- planning and organisation difficulties (e.g. trouble getting started, remembering or finishing tasks)
- increase in crying and tantrums (e.g. more often or in more situations)
- changes in eating habits (e.g. loss of appetite, becomes fussy with food, overeating)
- sleep difficulties (e.g. trouble falling or staying asleep, nightmares)
- regression to younger behaviours (e.g. bedwetting, thumb sucking, baby talk)
- aggressive behaviours (e.g. hitting, kicking, shouting).

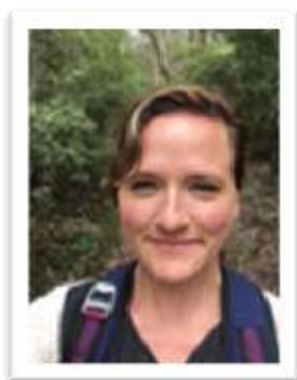
Putting aside some special time with your child will give you an opportunity to talk with them and help them express their feelings. This can be challenging for parents who are busy with other children or have work commitments, but conversations with your child can take place at any time. It may be within your child's everyday routines such as having dinner together or driving in the car. It may also be helpful to find times when your child feels most comfortable, such as when they are playing in the park or engaging in their favourite activity (e.g. on the swings or kicking a ball). Finding time during a shared activity will help your child to feel relaxed and comfortable to open up during a conversation with you. Sometimes children just aren't in the mood for talking and that's okay. Be guided by your child in whether they want to talk, what they want to talk about and for how long. Just being there with your child, sharing an enjoyable activity or having a cuddle can help them feel supported and more at ease at times of change.

What would you like to know about KidsMatter? Send your questions to jantienna.batt@ed.act.edu.au and it will be answered in the next KidsMatter Update.

The P&C Next Meets on Thursday 11 May 2017 at 7.00 pm in the Library.

Hi Everyone! Maribyrnong Primary School's P&C met on Thursday 23 March, where we discussed items including: fundraising, the Mother's Day stall and Father's Day stall, canteen operations and the school disco. If you have any ideas or thoughts that you would like the P&C to consider you can send an email to maribyrnongpandc@gmail.com, or come to the next meeting.

The P&C is also going to introduce one of the people filling a P&C role in each possum press. We hope this will give you an idea about not only who represents you on the P&C, but also what their roles involve.

Meet the P&C President: Meg Holesgrove

Meg is new to the role of P&C President, and the P&C Committee, having been elected at this year's AGM.

Meg has a daughter in year 2, a son in kindergarten, and a two-year-old daughter. Meg is looking forward to working with everyone to support the lovely Maribyrnong school community. The role of the P&C President involves leading the P&C members, chairing the meetings, and reporting on the activities of the P&C. The P&C president is the spokesperson for the P&C, and actively encourages members of the school community participate in P&C events.

If you see Meg around the school be sure to say hi.

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P&C NEWS

**P&C Give an Hour – An Hour of Power**

The Maribyrnong School Cross Country is almost here!!! This week you might like to give an hour supporting our students at this whole school event.

Parents and carers are invited to assist with jobs like sitting at check points, assisting with the warm up and cool down routines, recording results, assisting teachers with class groups while they are waiting for their turn to run and most importantly cheering everyone as they cross that finish line!

There is a job for everyone! The students really enjoy seeing lots of smiling, friendly faces waiting for them as they complete the Cross Country course. This is a whole school event and we encourage everyone to participate and enjoy the day.

If you would like to assist at the School Cross Country please drop in and see us at the front office.

A reminder that if you are planning on volunteering at school events and activities it is important to obtain and have with you your Working With Vulnerable People (WWVP) card. If you are not sure what this is or how to go about getting one please come in and ask.

Remember every hour you give makes a big difference to our school.

Lights on Learning!

Focusing on Kindergarten

The kindergarten children have quickly settled into life at school and have already learnt so much! The students are busy making new friends, learning school routines and enjoying the school playgrounds. The teachers are very proud of the hard work happening in kindergarten and have begun displaying the work in our classrooms.

We have had many parent helpers popping in to change home readers, playing small group activities and helping with odd jobs. Thank you to those who have volunteered, the children love to see you!

We are working on letters and sounds and already know most of the alphabet! Now we are putting the letters together to make three letter words.

Alphablocks is our favourite show on YouTube because it is all about letters and sounds!

We have also been practicing our sight words and a lot of children are even working on them at home, well done!

The kindergarten children love sharing Big Books and are learning reading strategies such as reading from left to right and sounding out simple words.



We are very good at reading, writing and counting numbers to 10. Ask us about some maths games we have been playing at school.

We are also counting our days at school and are almost to 40 days already! When we get to 100 days we are having a party!!

In maths we are learning our 2D and 3D shapes, measuring (length and capacity) and creating patterns. We really enjoy hands on activities and using the Smartboard for interactive maths games.



This term we have been learning about our community, including who lives there, buildings and keeping our community clean.

Today we had a visit from Kenny Koala to talk about staying safe in the community.

Last week we celebrated Harmony day and talked about the different cultures in our community. We have many different cultures in kindy as well.



On Friday 31 March we will be participating in the Cross Country. You are very welcome to come and join us! Please talk to your child's teacher if you are interested.

Tegan Arnold, Camille Wise and Alex Avis.

Lights on Learning!

Focusing on Bindarri LSU

What a wonderful start to the year we have had! The LSU children are settling back into the routines of school both within the LSU and the student's mainstream classes. They have really enjoyed getting to see who is in their classes and meeting their new mainstream teachers. We have been spending time this term focussing on the schools values and how we can show them towards educators and other students.

We have been doing lots of work on our reading and writing in the LSU. This term many of us have been focussing on the conventions of writing. We are making sure that we are using correct punctuation within our writing, leaving spaces between words, keeping our writing on the lines and starting all of our work on the left side of the page.

The rest of the class have been focussing on our letters and sounds. We are working our way through knowing each letter of the alphabet and what sounds they make. We have been listening and singing lots of songs on Youtube to help us.



ABC



We have been looking at counting forwards and backwards up to and beyond 20 as well as some addition strategies.

We have been completing many hands on activities as well as using Studyladder to help with our understanding of maths concepts.

Many of us have been integrating for our inquiry units this term. We have been looking at Gold, Canberra and its geographical features and indigenous culture. Make sure you ask your child about these wonderful things.

Last week was Harmony Day and we completed many activities to help us understand that Australia is a culturally diverse country. Have you seen our work? It is displayed outside our classroom and even made it on the schools Facebook page!



Have a wonderful break!

Stacey, Jacque, Nick and
Rebecca.

DSTA NEWS FROM JACKIE

Life as a defence family can be challenging at times.

There are lots of support agencies designed with this in mind to provide services for defence families. We recognise that defence families are strongest when they are connected with their local communities.

Defence Community Organisation (DCO) www.defence.gov.au/dco

Provide a number of support and information services to facilitate defence families connecting with and contributing to their communities, and to engage the wider community in support of defence families.

Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS)

www.vvcs.gov.au

VVCS has a wide range of counselling and group programs that can equip defence families with the skills and tools to cope with emotional challenges that the defence lifestyle may present.

Soldier On www.soldieron.org.au

Soldier On supports those who have served by focusing on their physical and mental health, their family, their community, and their future.

Defence Special Needs Support Group (DSNSG) dsnsg.org.au

Defence Special Needs Support Group has support groups in each state and territory which are able to assist with information, support and assistance at a local level.

Have a safe and happy break. See you all next term.

Jackie – Defence School Transition Aide.

P&C CLASS CARERS



This year we are launching a new parent/ carer initiative called **Class Carers**.

A small group of parents and carers have volunteered to assist classes in coordinating the needs and information from classes and year group units.

If you haven't signed up on the buff coloured form in your information pack, it's not too late. Come and get contact details from the front office, or find your class carer in the playground. They are only too happy to help!

KAA	Bronwyn Davis (Nicolas) Sophy Greenwood (Archie)
KTA	Lauren Newman (Daisy)
KCW	Brooke Haysman (Ethan) Liz Moyle (Darcy)
1LR	Venee Suppiah (Marissa)
1JB	Gemma Sweaney (Edith)
1BN	Danny Callaghan (Elora)
2WP	Liz Swann (Arthur)
2SF	Lauren Hill (Noah)
3LB	Clare Whittingham (Kale)
3ND	Zoe Fellows (Jacob)
3/4MM	Deb Livermore (Alice) Kristy Gould (Caitlin)
3/4KA	Naomi Merritt (Astrid)
5/6 unit	Liesa Bradley (Trent), Jackie Sampson (Emily & Hannah), Rebecca Kirpson-Colley (Zoe)

NOTES SENT / EMAILED HOME

- 3/4 Camp notes- term 2
- Ethical Uniform special order
- Chess Classes for term2.

Keep connected to news with:

- Download the **Skoolbag-Maribyrnong Primary App** to keep up to date with news, alerts, complete absence or excursion notes.



- Like us on **FACEBOOK** for updates:
Maribyrnong Primary School-Kaleen



- The Maribyrnong website and full calendar:
http://www.maribyrnongps.act.edu.au/our_community/calendar

SCHOOL BANKING NEWS

Wednesday mornings from 8:45 am in the canteen.

Bring your money and yellow bankbook.

Please note that Ilona will be away from the 1 April to 22 May and during this time Megan White will be at the canteen Wednesdays to process your banking.

Thank you Megan!

For more information on School Banking please visit:

<https://www.commbank.com.au/personal/kids/school-banking.html>

P&C CANTEEN ROSTER

If you are available to help in the canteen, or if you would like to be included on future canteen rosters please see Rouvaye or Zoe in the canteen or call on 62415974 or 041784009, or email Zoe on zoefellows123@gmail.com. Any help would be greatly appreciated, either for a whole shift or any time you can spare. Volunteers who help out for a shift will be issued with a voucher for 1 Meal Deal.

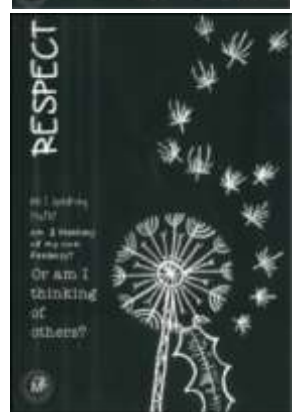
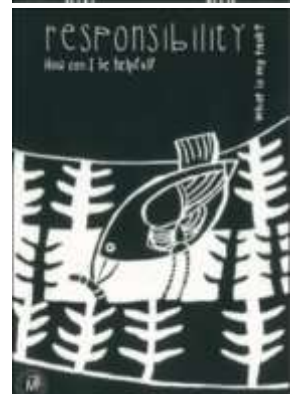
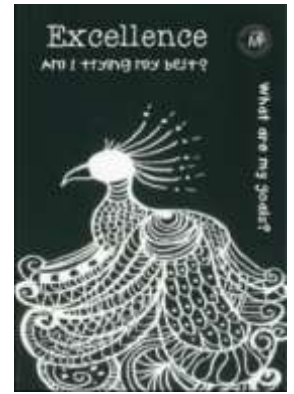
We look forward to seeing you in the canteen. Thank you.

Week 10 Term 1	Wednesday 5 April	Thursday 6 April	Friday 7 April
9.00 am - 1.30 pm			
9.00 am – 12.00 pm	Kim	Shirley	Brooke
11.00 am – 1.30 pm			Jaymee

TERM 2:

Week 1 Term 2	Wednesday 26 April	Thursday 27 April	Friday 28 April
9.00 am - 1.30 pm			Jane
9.00 am – 12.00 pm	Kim	Shirley	
11.00 am – 1.30 pm		Nicole	Jaymee

OUR VALUES



SCHOOL HOLIDAY CODE CAMP AT UCHSK



Learn to code, have fun, be creative, enjoy using logic and problem solving to build your very own app at Code Camp!

codecamp.com.au/uchigh

10th - 12th April
8.30am - 4pm

\$350
For 3 Days

UC High School
Kaleen

BYOD
or hire

Sponsored by **Westpac**

As seen on **Today**



Dear Maribyrnong Primary,

The Alliance Française de Canberra is very pleased to invite you to its Open Day special Francophonie on **Friday 31 March from 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm.**

Come and share a good moment with us! There will be live music, stalls of Francophone Embassies, petanque, face painting, books in French and more! It will also be the occasion to reward the winners of the competition "Dis-moi dix mots". Prize ceremony will take place at 4.00 pm. Don't miss it out!

A bientôt!
The Alliance Française team
(66 McCaughey St TURNER 2601 ACT).



Kaleen Primary

School Fete

Saturday

1 April

10.00 am to 2.00 pm



Gallery of Gardens opens to the public:

Sunday 2 April, 12 noon - 3.00 pm

You are invited to join the celebrations to open the Gallery of Gardens at the National Arboretum Canberra on **Sunday 2 April, 12 noon to 3.00pm.** Enjoy free live music, kite-flying, face-painting and guided walks on the recently opened Events Terrace. You can pack a picnic, or buy delicious food from Sprout Cafe. Enjoy one of Canberra's best kite-flying spots and either BYO kite or purchase a kit and decorate one for just \$10/kit. The first four gardens in the Gallery are **The Open Gardens Australia Celebration Garden, The Labyrinth Garden, The AIDS Garden of Reflection and Mununja the Butterfly Garden.**

For more information call 02 6207 8484 or visit www.nationalarboretum.act.gov.au (Please note in case of rain the event will be cancelled).



Kippax Kids

Holiday Happenings

for Primary aged children

presented at

Kippax Uniting Community Centre

Hardwick Cres, Holt (opp Kippax Fair)

10 am - 2 pm

Thursday April 13th & 20th 2017

Different craft, games, stories and activities each day

Cost: \$5 per child, \$10 for two or more in a family (covers craft, morning tea and drinks).

BYO lunch and hat.

Bookings essential - 6254 1733

An activity of Kippax Uniting Church



Come play AFL with the Belconnen Cats in 2017 Registration now open!

Develop skills, coordination, teamwork, and have fun with your mates. For age groups 5 to 15 yrs

Information and contact details at

www.belconnencatsafl.com.au

Nicole Thorne ph: 0419 486 082

Maribyrnong Primary School does not necessarily endorse the products or services advertised.